

Name _____

A.P.A.R.T. Website Evaluation Guide

Use these guidelines to take a web page A.P.A.R.T. to determine if you are using is a reliable source. Give a rating to each area, and then decide if it is a valid source of information.

URL _____

Authority	Rating
Who is the author or responsible party? (Look at the "about us" page if necessary).	Credible
Does the responsible party have qualifications that would make him/her an expert in the field? What is his/her occupation, experience, education?	Not Credible
Is the website on a domain connected to a university (.edu) or the government (.gov) that you can surmise would have reliable information?	

Purpose/Objectivity	Rating
Is the purpose of the site clear? (to sell something, to provide information, to persuade you to believe something)	Biased
Are the sponsors of the information easy to identify, and do they have a stake in the information? For example, would health information provided lead you to buy a supplement they sell?	Not Biased
Is there only one side of an argument presented? Read carefully because sometimes an opinion can appear to be factual.	
Is there an alternative source that you can use to provide the other side of the argument? What is it?	

Accuracy	Rating
Are there obvious errors on the page (spelling, grammar) that would lead you to feel that there was little care taken to provide this information?	<div data-bbox="1224 285 1446 359" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Accurate </div>
Is the information on the site researched and documented?	<div data-bbox="1224 447 1446 520" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Not Accurate </div>
Does the author use reliable and legitimate sources to get his/her information?	

Relevance of Information	Rating
Does the information help me answer my research questions?	<div data-bbox="1224 810 1446 884" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Useful </div>
Is it written at an appropriate level for me (not too easy or hard)?	<div data-bbox="1224 970 1446 1043" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Not Useful </div>

Timeliness	Rating
Is the website current and updated regularly? Based on the kind of information you seek, is the information still valuable if there hasn't been a recent update?	<div data-bbox="1224 1251 1446 1325" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Timely </div>
Do the links work?	<div data-bbox="1224 1411 1446 1484" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Not Timely </div>

Final Decision:

Use the site _____

Don't use the site _____